10 September 2008

Original: English

Committee on Conferences
Substantive session of 2008

Draft Report

Rapporteur: Mr. Yury G. **Yaroshevich** (Belarus)

II. Calendar of conferences and meetings

B. Adoption of the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2009

Introduction and overview

1. At its 491st and 494th meetings, on 8 and 10 September 2008, the Committee reviewed the draft revised calendar of conferences and meetings for 2009 (A/63/119/Add.1), reflecting the changes for the second year of the biennium since the adoption of the biennial calendar.

Discussion

2. Clarification was requested as to the meaning of the term "to be determined" in the revised calendar of conferences. In addition, specific dates had been given for the resumed sessions of the Fifth Committee in the early part of the year, but not for the later sessions.

3. A representative of the Secretariat, referring to the heading "to be determined", said that the bodies in question were entitled to services in all six official languages, but some of those meetings were seminars to be held in a particular region. The actual coverage required would be determined when the venue was determined. With regard to the Fifth Committee, its practice was to hold two resumed sessions after the main part of the General Assembly session. The specific dates of the second resumed session would be established based on the progress made during the first resumed session.

4. A delegation requested to clarify how conference services were to be provided to the meetings of the Independent Audit Advisory Committee. It was indicated that the meetings of the Committee, which was mandated to hold up to four sessions

annually by General Assembly resolution 61/275, were to be serviced on an "as available" basis in 2008.

5. A representative of the Secretariat explained that although periodicity was established by the mandating resolution, language requirements for interpretations were clarified only after the membership of the Committee was established. Four sessions of the Committee have been now included in 2009 revised calendar of conferences and meetings, and conference services will be accommodated in consultation with meetings planners.